

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059112

FOR US TEXTILE NEGOTIATING TEAM

FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 03927 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BERLIN COPENHAGEN
BRUSSELS BUCHAREST BUDAPEST LONDON MOSCOW PARIS WARSAW USBERLIN
USNATO MAR 03.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03927

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, BQG, EEC, RO, PL, HU

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON HUNGARIAN PROPOSALS REGARDING
APPLICABILITY TO BERLIN OF TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REF: BONN 3715

1. AT THE MARCH 1 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE FRENCH REP
(RICHARD) REPORTED THAT THE QUAI IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT
THE UK PROPOSAL (PARAGRAPH 9 OF REFTEL) REGARDING THE
AREA OF APPLICATION CLAUSE, ALTHOUGH THE FRENCH HAVE
NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT ITS EFFICACY. THE QUAI ALSO NOTED
THAT THE HUNGARIANS APPARENTLY WANT TO MENTION BERLIN
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IN AGREED MINUTE ALTHOUGH IN A WAY WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE
EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT THEIR THESIS ON
WEST BERLIN AND TO CONTEST AT SOME POINT THE TREATY'S
APPLICABILITY TO BERLIN. IN SPITE OF THIS, THE QUAI
IS OF THE VIEW THAT THE MENTION OF BERLIN IS IN THE
SPIRIT OF THE ALLIED POSITION AND MAY BE A WAY OUT OF THE
PROBLEM WITH THE HUNGARIANS. THE FRENCH SUGGESTED THAT

THE HUNGARIAN PROPOSALS AT LEAST MERIT FURTHER STUDY.

2. THE FRG REP (VON BRAUNMUEHL) SAID THAT SINCE THE HUNGARIANS HAVE NOT YET RETURNED FROM BUDAPEST TO BRUSSELS, NO NEW VERSIONS OF THE CLAUSE SHOULD BE MENTIONED TO THEM BEFORE THEY GIVE THEIR ANSWER TO THE LATEST EC PROPOSALS. HE ALSO QUESTIONED WHETHER A REFERENCE TO THE "INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF WEST BERLIN" IS DESIRABLE BECAUSE THIS WOULD UNDERCUT OUR POSITION THAT ALL OF BERLIN IS UNDER QUADRIPARTITE STATUS. THE US REP NOTED THAT, CONSISTENT WITH PRIOR INSTRUCTIONS, WE WILL GENERALLY FOLLOW THE LEAD OF THE FRENCH, BRITISH AND GERMANS WITH REGARD TO TACTICS AS TO HOW TO INCLUDE BERLIN. HOWEVER, HE AGREED WITH VON BRAUNMUEHL THAT THE HUNGARIAN PROPOSAL, IF ACCEPTED, COULD HAVE IMPLICATIONS WHICH WENT BEYOND THE EC/CEMA TREATIES AND COULD BE DANGEROUS. THE UK REP (EYERS) SUPPORTED THESE VIEWS AND SAID THAT THE FCO IS ALSO UNHAPPY WITH THIS FORMULATION.

3. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT THE FRG WOULD NOT LIKE A SITUATION WHERE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD TOLD THE BUNDESTAG THAT THE TREATY INCLUDED BERLIN AND THEN HAVE THE SOVIETS PUBLICLY DENY THIS FACT. IF THE UK SUGGESTION IS FOLLOWED, THE HUNGARIANS COULD NOT BE HEARD LATER TO DENY THAT THEY WERE INFORMED CONFIDENTIAL

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THE TREATY INCLUDED BERLIN.

4. THE FRENCH NOTED THAT THE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO BERLIN IN THE AGREED MINUTE DOES HAVE SOME MERIT, ALTHOUGH PERHAPS NOT IN THIS FORM, AND NOTED THAT PARIS HAD CONCURRED IN THE UK PROPOSAL WHILE MERELY SUGGESTING THAT THE HUNGARIAN PROPOSALS BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED.

5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR NEW EC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE HUNGARIANS. REGARDING THE POLES, THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAD TOLD THE FRG MISSION IN BRUSSELS THAT THE FRG FAVORS CONCLUDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE HUNGARIANS BEFORE RESUMING TALKS WITH THE POLES. IT IS NOT UP TO THE EC TO INFORM THE POLES WHEN NEGOTIATIONS CAN RESUME, AND THIS WILL PRESUMABLY BE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE TREATY WITH THE HUNGARIANS.

6. FINALLY, VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT THE TEXT OF THE AGREED MINUTE PROPOSED TO THE HUNGARIANS, AS GIVEN TO BONN GROUP, IS INCORRECT (PARAGRAPH 4 OF REFTTEL). THE WORD "APPLIES" SHOULD BE SUBSTITUTED FOR

"IS APPLICABLE".

MEEHAN UNQUOTE VANCE

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